

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Masanori AYABE et al.

Serial No.:

10/018,293

Filing Date:

December 18, 2001

For:

METHOD FOR CONSTRUCTING

VIRUS-FREE PLANT

Examiner: Wendy C. Haas

Group Art Unit: 1661

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action dated September 21, 2004. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2. Remarks begin on page 3.